

- 2 -

Q 1 -- This application claims the benefit of (1) pending prior U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/123,432, filed March 9, 1999 by Brian K. Estabrook et al. for SUBCUTANEOUS HEMODIALYSIS ACCESS PORT AND METHOD OF USING SAME (Attorney's Docket No. PROSL-7 PROV), and (2) is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/226,956, filed January 8, 1999 by Brian K. Estabrook et al. for APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SUBCUTANEOUS ACCESS TO THE VASCULAR SYSTEM OF A PATIENT (Attorney's Docket No. PROSL-4), now U.S. Patent No. 6,506,182, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/661,903, filed June 12, 1996 by Brian K. Estabrook et al. for DEVICE FOR SUBCUTANEOUS ACCESSIBILITY, now U.S. Patent No. 6,013,058.

The disclosures of the aforementioned three (3) [five (5)] U.S. patent applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference. --

#### Remarks

Applicants have now amended the priority claim in the first paragraph of the specification. Specifically, Applicants have now deleted a portion of the priority claim in the first paragraph of the specification. This deleted portion incorrectly stated that U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/661,903 "in turn claims priority from (i) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/485,498, filed June 7, 1995 for HEMODIALYSIS ACCESS APPARATUS, and (ii) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/661,903, filed June 12, 1996 for IMPROVED DEVICE FOR SUBCUTANEOUS ACCESSIBILITY".

PROSL-7

- 3 -

As amended, the specification now claims priority to pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/661,903 without incorrectly stating that the 08/661,903 application in turn claims priority from (1) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/485,498, filed June 7, 1995 for HEMODIALYSIS ACCESS APPARATUS, and (2) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/661,903, filed June 12, 1996 for IMPROVED DEVICE FOR SUBCUTANEOUS ACCESSIBILITY.

In the event that any fees may be required in this matter, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

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- 4 -

Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

Please amend paragraphs 1 and 2 of the specification, on page 1, line 5 to page 2, line 3, as follows:

This application claims the benefit of (1) pending prior U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/123,432, filed March 9, 1999 by Brian K. Estabrook et al. for SUBCUTANEOUS HEMODIALYSIS ACCESS PORT AND METHOD OF USING SAME (Attorney's Docket No. PROSL-7 PROV), and (2) [pending prior] is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/226,956, filed January 8, 1999 by Brian K. Estabrook et al. for APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SUBCUTANEOUS ACCESS TO THE VASCULAR SYSTEM OF A PATIENT, now U.S. Patent No. 6,506,182 (Attorney's Docket No. PROSL-4), which in turn [claims priority from] is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/661,903, filed June 12, 1996 by Brian K. Estabrook et al. for DEVICE FOR SUBCUTANEOUS ACCESSIBILITY, now U.S. Patent No. 6,013,053[, which in turn claims priority from (i) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/485,498, filed June 7, 1995 for HEMODIALYSIS ACCESS APPARATUS, and (ii) U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/661,903, filed June 12, 1996 for IMPROVED DEVICE FOR SUBCUTANEOUS ACCESSIBILITY].

The disclosures of the aforementioned three (3) [five (5)] U.S. patent applications are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

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PROSL-7